

Amendments and Remarks
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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (canceled)
2. (canceled)
3. (canceled)
4. (canceled)
5. (canceled)
6. (canceled)
7. (canceled)
8. (canceled)
9. (canceled)
10. (canceled)
11. (canceled)
12. (canceled)
13. (canceled)
14. (currently amended) A method for producing a printing plate precursor

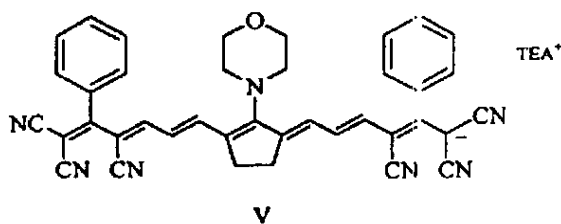
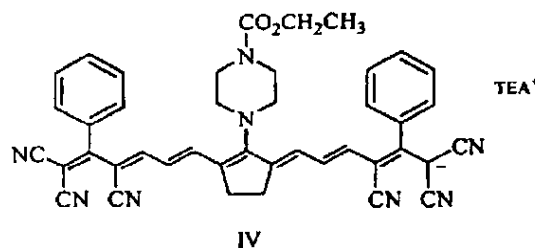
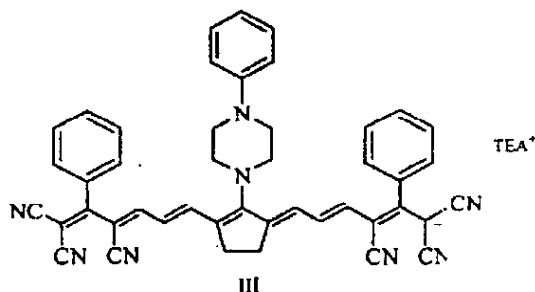
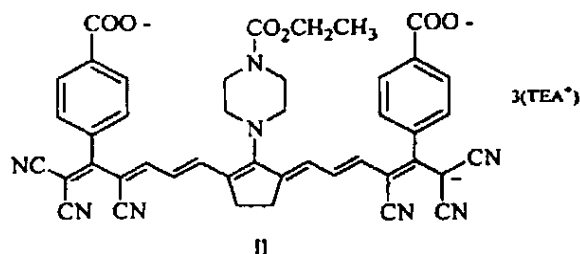
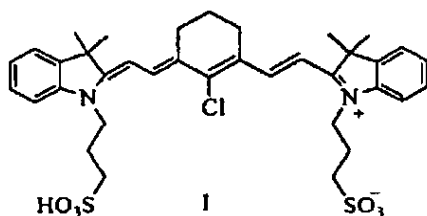
comprising applying to a substrate a composition comprising:

- (a) a photothermal converter;
- (b) at least one polymer comprising thiosulfate groups; and
- (c) ~~an additive selected from the group consisting of a diazonium,~~
iodonium, copper(I), alkoxypyridinium[[,]] and maleimide additives
additive and or mixtures thereof.

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15. (original) The method of claim 14, wherein the photothermal converter is an infrared dye.

16. (currently amended) The method of claim 15, wherein the infrared dye is ~~selected from the group consisting~~ has the formula of compounds ~~IN~~, I, II, III, IV or V where TEA = triethylammonium:



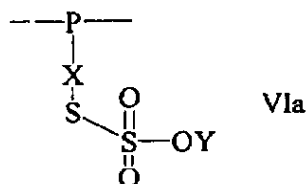
and wherein TEA⁺ is a triethylammonium cation.

17. (original) The method of claim 14, wherein the polymer comprising thiosulfate groups has a molecular weight in the range of 1,000 - 1,000,000.

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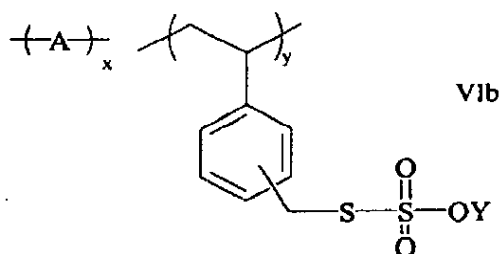
18. (original) The method of claim 14, wherein the number of thiosulfate-containing monomeric units in the polymer comprising thiosulfate groups is from about 10% to about 100% of the total number of monomeric units.

19. (previously presented) The method of claim 14, wherein the polymer comprising thiosulfate groups is the polymer having structure VIa



wherein P represents a polymeric backbone, X is a divalent linking group, and Y is a hydrogen or a cation.

20. (previously presented) The method of claim 14, wherein the polymer comprising thiosulfate groups is the polymer having structure VIb



wherein y has a nonzero value, the ratio x:y ranges from 0 to about 9, A is an unsaturated polymerizable comonomer, and Y is a hydrogen or a cation.

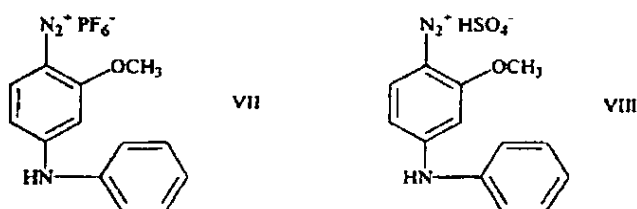
21. (previously presented) The method of claim 20, wherein A is an acrylate, methacrylate, styrene and its derivatives, acrylamide, methacrylamide, olefin, vinyl halide, or combinations thereof.

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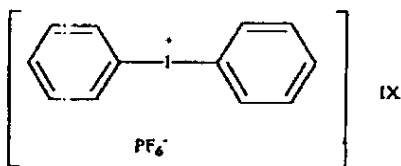
22. (original) The method of claim 14, wherein the coating composition comprises about 1 to about 25 wt % of solids.

23. (original) The method of claim 14, wherein the coating composition provides a dry coverage of about 10 to about 1000 mg/ft².

24. (previously presented) The method of claim 14, wherein the diazonium additive is compound VII or VIII

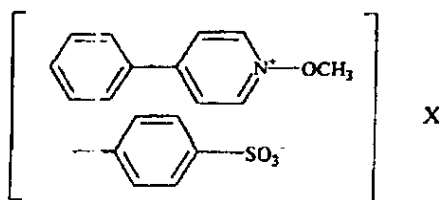


25. (previously presented) The method of claim 14, wherein the iodonium additive is compound IX



26. (original) The method of claim 14, wherein the copper(I) additive is copper(I) gluconate.

27. (previously presented) The method of claim 14, wherein the alkoxy pyridinium additive is compound X



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28. (original) The method of claim 14, wherein the maleimide additive is N-ethylmaleimide.

29. (canceled)

30. (canceled)

31. (previously presented) A printing plate precursor comprising:

- (a) a substrate; and
- (b) a coating applied to the substrate, the coating comprising
 - (i) a photothermal converter;
 - (ii) at least one polymer comprising thiosulfate groups; and
 - (iii) a diazonium, iodonium, copper(I), alkoxypyridinium, maleimide additive or mixtures thereof.